From: Doug Loss
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 4:05am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Since Microsoft has been found by the court to have a monopoly and to have illegally used its monopoly status, a finding which has been upheld on appeal, I feel it would be remiss not to have a final judgement that sanctions Microsoft for this behavior and applies real restrictions against its conducting similar behavior in the future. As has been shown in Microsoft's responses to previous judgements against it (the 1994 concent decree in particular), Microsoft can't be trusted to abide by any agreements it enters into without intensive oversight. Indeed, Microsoft's behavior since the findings of fact in this case were handed down clearly show its intent to ignore the court's decisions.

I think a proper final judgement would require Microsoft to publish the complete specifications to all the APIs (application programming interfaces) to all its products and the complete specifications to all its heretofore proprietary data formats, and would enjoin Microsoft from making any changes to those formats without publishing those changes in the same manner. This would not require Microsoft to release its "crown jewels," the source code of its products, but would give other vendors a much better chance of competing with Microsoft on a level playing field.

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Doug Loss All I want is a warm bed Data Network Coordinator and a kind word and Bloomsburg University unlimited power. dloss@bloomu.edu Ashleigh Brilliant